

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 OPIC-03 SAI-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 EB-07 AID-05 IO-10

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P R 081825Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3350

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3845

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: JULY 8 AFM ASSEMBLY

REF: LISBON 3810

SUMMARY: PRESSURES CONTINUE ON THE DIVIDED REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AS THE AFM ASSEMBLY CONVENES. SOCIALIST LEADER SOARES HAS REPORTEDLY THREATENED TO PARALYZE THE COUNTRY; BOTH THE ULTRA-LEFT AND THE COMMUNISTS ARE ALSO RESTIVE. THE AFM ASSEMBLY'S AGENDA IS LENGTHY, AND THE POSITION OF PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES COULD BE A FOCAL POINT OF ASSEMBLY DEBATE.
END SUMMARY

1. PRESSURES ON RC CONTINUE: FAR LEFT, MOST NOTABLY
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REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS COUNCILS (CRT'S) CONDEMNED RC'S

POLITICAL ACTION PROGRAM FOR BEING "SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC." IN NOTE PUBLISHED JULY 8 COMMUNISTS DESCRIBED CURRENT SITUATION AS "GRAVE" AND "TENSE," AND ALSO APPEALED FOR "POPULAR VIGILANCE" AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES. SOCIALIST LEADER MARIO SOARES ALSO REPORTEDLY THREATENED TO "PARALYZE" NATION IN PROTEST AGAINST MANIPULATION OF NEWS MEDIA. SOARES'S REPORTED REMARK HAS BEEN GLEEFULLY POUNCED UPON BY PRO-COMMUNIST ELEMENT, ACCUSING HIM AGAIN OF "SCARE TACTICS" AND "DIVISIONIST MANEUVERS."

2. JULY 8 SESSION OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) ASSEMBLY REFLECTING CURRENT TENSION AND CONFLICTING PRESSURES HAS ACQUIRED LENGTHY AGENDA.

3. AGENDA ITEMS: DIVIDED INTO "AGENDA" AND "PRE-AGENDA" ITEMS, FORMER CATEGORY INCLUDES: RATIFICATION OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL'S (RC) NEW ORGANIZATIONAL SETUP; RATIFICATION OF "ALTERATIONS IN ASSEMBLY"; HEARING FOLLOW-THROUGH REPORTS ON DECISIONS TAKEN AT MAY 26 ASSEMBLY; AND REVIEW OF RC'S RECENT ACTS. "AGENDA" ITEMS INCLUDE THE RC'S PROPOSED POLITICAL ACTION PLAN; CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS ON ASSEMBLY'S RULES OF ORDER, INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF AFM, AND "REVOLUTIONARY ETHIC" OF ARMED FORCES; HEARING REPORTS BY GEN. OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO ON "REVOLUTION'S SECURITY" AND "RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF AUTHORITY" AND BY ADM. ROSA COUTINHO ON MAKEUP OF REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL TO JUDGE PERSONS IMPLICATED IN MARCH 11 COUP ATTEMPT; INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF "DIRECT LINKS" BETWEEN AFM AND THE PEOPLE; AND REPORTS ON AUSTERITY MEASURES (CPT VASCO LOURENCO), SHORT TERM ECONOMIC PLANS (CPT GRACA E CUNHA), INFORMATION POLICY (CDR CORREIA JESUINO), AZORES SITUATION (GEN. PINTO DE MAGALHAES), EVOLVING SITUATION IN ANGOLA (AFM COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR ANGOLA) AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS (FONMIN ANTUNES).

4. PM'S POSITION: POSITION OF PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES CONTINUES TO GENERATE QUESTIONS, AND HE COULD BE CHALLENGED AT TODAY'S AFM ASSEMBLY. ONE POSSIBILITY, WE UNDERSTAND, WOULD BE TO APPOINT TWO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS TO "SUPPORT" HIM IN DIRECTING PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. CAPT. LOURENCO IS LEADING CANDIDATE FOR ONE OF THESE TWO SLOTS. EVIDENCE THAT GONCALVES

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IS UNDER ATTACK WAS CLEAR FROM PCP NOTE WHICH EXPLICITLY CALLED FOR SUPPORT FOR PRIME MINISTER AT CURRENT JUNCTURE. CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON03845
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750235-0607
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750777/aaaacreq.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 3810
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by GarlanWA>; RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JULY 8 AFM ASSEMBLY
TAGS: PINT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006